

Amendments to Claims

Please cancel claims 2-24 and add new claims 25-30 as shown below:

25. (New) A method for making fibers for reinforcing matrix materials, comprising: providing a plurality of fibers comprising at least one polymer; mechanically flattening said fibers between opposed rollers having a pattern selected from dimples, protrusions, grid patterns, line patterns, raised portions, indentations, grooves, or combination thereof, thereby obtaining mechanically-flattened fibers having generally elongate bodies; and cutting said fibers to obtain fiber bodies having an average length of not less than 5 mm and not greater than 75 mm., an average width not less than 0.5 mm and not greater than 8.0 mm., and an average thickness not less than 0.005 mm and not greater than 3.0 mm., the average fiber width of said mechanically-flattened fibers exceeding the average fiber thickness; said fiber bodies having irregular and random displacements of polymer material on the fiber surface, said fiber surface displacements comprising microscopic noncontinuous stress fractures and microscopic elevated ridges.

26. (New) The method of claim 25 wherein said fibers have a pattern of dimples, indentations, or combination thereof.

27. (New) The method of claim 25 wherein said fibers comprise polypropylene, polyethylene, styrene, or a combination thereof.

28. (New) The method of claim 25 wherein said fibers are provided as a twisted rope before said mechanical flattening, and thereafter cut into individual fiber bodies.

29. (New) A plurality of fibers made by the method of claim 25.

30. (New) A fiber-reinforced matrix material comprising: a cementitious binder and the fibers of claim 29.